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# Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

PM-04 PRS-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /030 W
---------- 063333
O P 011124Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3731
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN IMMEDIATE
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG IMMEDIATE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI, PINR, MPOL, GW
SUBJECT: ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN DIES

1. ADMIRAL ARMIN ZIMMERMANN DIED TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 30, IN BONN. APPOINTED INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES (EQUIVALENT TO CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF) IN APRIL OF 1972, HE WAS GERMANY'S
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HIGHEST RANKING MILITARY OFFICER. ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN HAD

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SUFFERED A FALL ON JUNE 18 OF THIS YEAR IN WHICH HE FRACTURED HIS SKULL AND HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED EVER SINCE. HIS INJURY WAS COMPLICATED BY A HEAD INJURY SUFFERED IN WORLD WAR II.

2. AIR FORCE LT. GEN. HARALD WUST, DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES, HAS BEEN ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL SINCE ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN'S ACCIDENT. HE IS GENERALLY EXPECTED TO BE NAMED ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN'S SUCCESSOR. MINISTER OF DEFENSE LEBER WILL PROBABLY MOVE FAIRLY QUICKLY TO FILL THE VACANCY SINCE HE HAS BEEN UNDER SOME NEWSPAPER CRITICISM FOR NOT NAMING A SUCCESSOR ONCE THE SERIOUSNESS OF ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN'S ILLNESS BECAME CLEAR. LEBER TOOK THE POSITION THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNSEEMLY TO REPLACE THE ADMIRAL WHILE HE WAS BATTLING FOR HIS LIFE.
STOESSEL

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**Subject:** ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN DIES
**TAGS:** MILI, PINR, MPOL, GE, (ZIMMERMANN, ARMIN), (WUST, HARALD)
**To:** STATE DOD
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